

# Research and Evaluation IGA – Draft

## Issue:

1. Can the transportation community be more proactive, communicative, and collaborative in developing, evaluating, and implementing research results?
2. How to use transportation research, data, and evaluation techniques to support and improve current and future transportation decision making.
3. Review research funding and related resources in transportation area.
4. Looking to the future, research needs to support a long-term (50 year) vision.

## Goals:

1. Ensure the transportation community is proactive in research development, open to change and innovation, aggressive in implementation of research results, supportive of training and continuing professional development of personnel.
2. Make Michigan a national leader in implementing and sharing transportation research findings.
3. Make data and research findings accessible to end users in a timely manner.
4. Include innovative and long-term research in the development of Michigan's transportation vision.
5. Educate the public about the importance of research so there are a corresponding political will at all levels to support research with adequate resources.

## Actions:

1. Create an easily accessible centralized electronic library for the storage/retrieval of data and research findings. Develop guidelines for the timely input of appropriate data.
2. Utilize public relations, news media, the MDOT web site, and other free media to educate the public and the Legislature on the benefits of transportation research. Work with the universities and other research providers to leverage their information dissemination resources.
3. Develop a process to implement research findings.
4. Develop and promote planned meetings, workshops and training programs for transportation professionals.
5. Develop proactive and transparent research agenda for the short-term and the long-term.
6. Identify world-wide best practices that can be implemented today.
7. Bring together a consortium of transportation experts within two years to address economic, social and environmental trends relevant to transportation research.
8. Develop a curriculum to educate practitioners and students on the need for long-range planning and research.